

Molly McCarter

From: Rice, Stephanie <srice@blm.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2019 12:34 PM
To: Molly McCarter
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] scoping comments on NPR-A plan

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Stephanie Rice

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BLM Alaska - Division of Resources
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From: Martha Raynolds <martharaynolds@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Feb 15, 2019 at 5:44 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] scoping comments on NPR-A plan
To: <Srice@blm.gov>

Dear Ms. Stephanie Rice,

I am writing to comment on the scope of the EIS for the potential revision of the 2013 Integrated Activity Plan for the NPR-A.

The range of alternatives should include 1) No additional leasing, 2) Reduced area available for leasing, and 3) No Action. This would present the full range of alternatives to the public, and allow full consideration of the impacts of allowing more drilling and hydrocarbon burning in our overtaxed atmosphere.

The EIS must include consideration of the impacts of the increase in atmospheric gasses that any oil extraction would produce. This is especially relevant in an area that is warming about 3 times as fast as the global average, and experiencing dramatic changes to permafrost and eroding coastlines.

I support Alternative 1 - No Additional Leasing in support of starting to slow our contributions to atmospheric warming.

The Teshukpuk Lake area, including a 20-km buffer around the lake, should not be available for leasing. This is a World Waterfowl habitat area, and should be protected as such. It is also very important to the local Teshukpuk caribou herd.

The special areas boundaries from the 2013 Record of Decision should not be adjusted. These are based on ecological science. There have been no additional studies since then to show that these areas are any less important than they were in 2013.

Sincerely,

Martha Raynolds, PhD.

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